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MALTBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1955



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Maltby Urban District Council

Members of the Public Health Committee

Chairman:
Councillor H. Cooke

Vice-Chairman:
Councillor F. Howe

Councillors:

W. Bennison	J. Layden
H. Bulleyment	H. Logan
T. Cheetham	P. E. Moran
C. Edge	A. E. Sawyer
T. W. McLean	J. Tose
F. Jerram	R. Tose
J. Jowett	

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. J. M. Watt

Deputy Medical Officer of Health: Dr. A. P. Gorrie

Assistant County Medical Officers: Dr. M. J. Hallinan
Dr. J. Lodwick

Senior Sanitary Inspector: Mr. R. Oddy

Additional Sanitary Inspector: Mr. M. Hepples

Chairman of the Council: Councillor R. Tose

Divisional Health Office: "Edenthorpe," Grove Road, Rotherham

MALTBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 1955

Comments

POPULATION. The population is increasing steadily year by year because of new house building and the high birth rate.

BIRTHS. The birth rate persists at a level 30 per cent. higher than the rest of the County.

SURVIVAL OF INFANTS. The local rate for infant deaths is being steadily reduced and is beginning to compare reasonably with the national figure.

DEATHS. Nearly half the total number of deaths were due to cardio-vascular disease. Cancer of the lung and bronchus, which have aroused special interest because of their possible association with smoking, caused the death of four men but no women. Eleven deaths were due to malignant disease. There were no deaths from infectious diseases and none from childbirth.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Great advances have been made in the control of infectious disease by artificial immunity. In this very successful system, small calculated doses of a microbe or its products are injected to raise enough resistance to prevent future infections.

DIPHTHERIA. The most spectacular success in this field is diphtheria immunisation which abolished the disease 10 years ago and which now requires only a fixed proportion of newly immunised children each year to prolong this happy state of affairs.

SCARLET FEVER. This disease is now so mild that it is an inconvenience rather than a serious illness. Practically all scarlet fever cases can be nursed at home and this fact, together with the disappearance of diphtheria, has permitted the two isolation hospitals in the district to be closed. The greatly reduced number of hospital cases can now very readily be accommodated at Lodge Moor Hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH. Immunisation against whooping cough, which is given to children from four months to four years of age, is showing very promising results.

MEASLES. This disease now takes chief place in the infectious diseases register because few children escape measles before they leave the junior department at school.

VENEREAL DISEASES. The number of cases of venereal diseases in 1955 was small.

TUBERCULOSIS. The vaccination of school leavers with B.C.G was introduced in 1955 and it is hoped that these children may be able to resist tuberculosis infection when they come under the extra strain of employment. The number of cases of tuberculosis and the deaths from the disease are declining rapidly because of improved methods of treatment, earlier detection of cases and better living conditions.

REHOUSING OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES. A very favourable comment was made in the bulletin of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis upon the sympathetic and helpful action of the Council in providing additional houses for tuberculosis families which made it possible for each family to have a house of its own and for every patient to have a bedroom to himself or herself.

POLIOMYELITIS. A recently introduced vaccine gives us hope that an immunity can be produced which will control this most crippling disease of childhood.

FOOD POISONING. Each summer more and more outbreaks of food poisoning are notified and there is an obvious national need for better hygiene in the preparation and storage of food. The milk supply can now be considered satisfactory with the widespread use of pasteurisation which has eliminated bovine tuberculosis, abortus infection and streptococcal infections. The ice cream regulations, with their insistence upon thorough heating and packaging, have made ice creams a much safer food, but there are many foods which require still stricter control and, in particular, cooked meats, pies, confectionery and other foods which are eaten without further cooking. These foods, generally, would benefit from a more extensive use of wrapping, greater use of refrigerators and a stricter control of food handlers.

DYSENTERY. This is a disease which is increasing in prevalence. It is mainly spread from person to person which illustrates the need for cleanliness of the body, the clothing and for thorough washing of the hands after each visit to the toilet.

MIDWIVES. The midwives are attending an impressive number of home confinements each year. They also assist the Maternity Hospitals and Homes by attending cases discharged before the fourteenth day.

X-RAYS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS. No facilities are available in this district for taking chest X-rays for expectant mothers. Even cases attending hospital clinics do not receive this necessary attention. The shortage of radiographers is given as the reason for the inadequate service.

PREMATURE INFANTS. One of the principal causes of infant deaths is prematurity and, in this district, rather too much responsibility is being thrown upon the hospitals for the care of these underweight babies. There is no reason why more premature babies should not be kept at home. Nursing cots and equipment are available at Maltby Ambulance Depot and several midwives have received special training in premature baby management.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS. Unmarried mothers are accommodated at St. Agatha's Hostel, Sheffield, for an eight weeks' period and maintenance charges are paid by the County Council. This facility is freely utilised and does a great deal to keep up the satisfactory rate of survival of these illegitimate infants.

NUTRITION OF CHILDREN. The statistical tables of heights and weights show steady gains in the size of school children year by year, due to more plentiful and varied food.

ACCIDENTS TO CHILDREN. The child of to-day is born into a dangerous world, with vehicles menacing his safety even in secluded country lanes, his own backyard and school playground. In his home there is a steadily increasing danger due to the introduction of dangerous household appliances. At the Child Welfare Centres mothers are urged to keep children away from boiling pans and kettles, to use fire-guards, to keep tea-pots out of reach and to be most careful with inflammable clothing, but more assistance might be given to the mothers if new houses were fitted with fireplaces ready to take a standardised fireguard and if the enclosed convector type of electric heater was fitted instead of the dangerous electric fire with its red hot bars and inadequate guard.

HEALTH VISITORS. Some useful liaison work is being done in the Rotherham Hospitals by Health Visitors who are keeping contact between the home and the bed patient. Arrangements are made for discharged patients to have attention from Home Nurses and Home Helps, to have nursing equipment and, in maternity cases, to have advice and instruction in infant management. The continuing struggle to improve the care of infants still goes on in homes and in welfare clinics and the Health Visitors have the main responsibility in this field of endeavour.

CLINIC VOLUNTARY WORKERS. The work of the Voluntary Committees at the Infant Welfare Centres receives very little recognition. Some of these ladies have attended the clinics each week for 30 years and it would be impossible to carry on the clinics without the generous assistance which they provide in keeping attendance registers, weighing babies and issuing dried milk and vitamins. Perhaps some influential person, reading this report, may be able to take the necessary steps to remedy a long standing omission.

DENTAL CLINIC. The new dental clinic is raising the standard of dental care, particularly in school children. Expectant mothers are also benefitting.

MENTAL DEFECTIVES. An Occupation Centre would be a great asset to the sorely tried mothers of mentally defective children and would permit them to obtain, each day, a period of relief from the constant care which mental defectives demand. The defectives would be occupied with handicrafts and would improve in their mental outlook from association with other people. The need for a Centre is much greater in this district because of its shortage of institutional beds for mental deficiency.

HOME NURSING. The last seven years have seen a great expansion in the Home Nursing Service, not because of increased illness, but because nursing attention has been made available to the whole population instead of to a limited number of contributors to the local nursing associations. Nursing visits are now five times more numerous than they were when the service was taken over by the Local Authority.

HOME HELPS. The Home Help Service is bringing a great deal of comfort to frail, elderly, people who are unable to fend for themselves. More use could be made of Home Helps by mothers having confinements at home and by families where the mother has been admitted to hospital. I regret that the very modest charges made in these cases are discouraging the free use of Home Helps.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY. The proportion of elderly people in the population is steadily increasing and the majority of the sixty-thousand visits paid by the Home Nurses are to elderly people. The largest number of cases attended by Home Helps are over 65 years of age.

The most common disability is disease of the heart and blood vessels with rheumatic conditions of the bones and joints coming second in importance. Bronchitis, foot disorders, hernia, deafness, cataract, teeth deficiencies, anxiety-depression, dementia and insomnia are also common conditions in elderly people.

Apathy can almost be described as an occupational disease of old age. It leads to neglect of the diet, of the feet and of general cleanliness. Those who live alone are, on the whole, less fit than those living as married couples and those who continue working are, on the whole, happier than those who have retired. An elderly man who has lost his wife tends to live on meals which give him little trouble, such as bread, jam and tea with condensed milk, and ceases to care about his appearance and surroundings. Elderly people are often loath to consult a doctor for illnesses which they consider inevitable in old age and even their doctors tend to take a fatalistic attitude. Nurses supervising Home Help cases do a great deal of checking up on their day-to-day domestic needs, but they also attend to special requirements, such as the repair of artificial teeth, the supply of spectacles and hearing aids, trusses, pessaries, rubber mattresses and invalid chairs.

A final comment on the care of the elderly is the reminder that we will all be old some day ourselves.

SANITATION. Detailed information upon this subject is given by the Sanitary Inspector in another section of the report.

J. M. WATT,
Medical Officer of Health.

MALTBY URBAN DISTRICT

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1955

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	4,788
Population (estimated mid-1955)	...	...	...	...	...	13,300
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	3,829
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£55,312
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	£214	0s. 3d.	

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births.

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	115	133	248
Illegitimate	...	4	7	11
Total	...	119	140	259

Crude birth-rate per 1,000 population: 19.9.
Adjusted birth-rate per 1,000 population: 17.5.
Comparability factor: 0.90.

Stillbirths.

Total stillbirths: 7.
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths: 26.3.
Rate per 1,000 population: 0.6.

Deaths.

Total deaths: 89.
Crude death-rate per 1,000 population: 6.7.
Adjusted death-rate per 1,000 population: 10.0.
Comparability factor: 1.49.

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age).

Total infant deaths: 8.
Rate per 1,000 live births: 30.9.

Maternal Deaths.

Total deaths recorded: Nil.

Birth and Mortality Rates for 1955 for the West Riding Administrative County

		Maltby Urban District	Aggregate of U.D.'s	Aggregate of R.D.'s	Administrative County
Crude Birth Rate	...	19.9	14.8	16.6	15.3
Adjusted Birth Rate	...	17.5	14.9	16.8	15.4
Crude Death Rate	...	6.7	12.5	9.6	11.7
Adjusted Death Rate	...	10.0	12.7	11.0	12.3
Infective and Parasitic Diseases exc. tuberculosis but inc. syphilis and other V.D.	...	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.07
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	0.23	0.11	0.08	0.11
Tuberculosis, Other	...	—	0.02	0.02	0.01
Tuberculosis, All Forms	...	0.23	0.13	0.10	0.12
Cancer	...	0.83	2.03	1.54	1.90
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	...	0.98	2.09	1.40	1.90
Heart and Circulatory	...	1.73	4.71	3.55	4.39
Respiratory Diseases	...	1.20	1.28	1.03	1.21
Maternal Mortality	...	—	0.45	1.19	0.67
Infant Mortality	...	30.9	25.2	28.6	26.2
Neo Natal Mortality	...	15.4	16.9	18.6	17.4
Stillbirth Rate	...	26.3	26.4	26.2	26.4

Tuberculosis.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Cases on register at 1.1.55	56	32	9	3
Primary notifications received during the year	10	4	—	—
Cases added during the year (e.g. transfers in, re-notifications, etc.)	1	1	—	—
Cases removed during the year ..	7	1	1	—
Cases on register at 31.12.55	60	36	8	3

Tuberculosis Contacts.

Nine children and 27 adults were examined at the Chest Clinic, Chatham Street, Rotherham, during the year.

Extra Nourishment for Tuberculosis Cases.

Number of cases receiving extra nourishment at beginning of 1955	...	...	...	12
Number of cases granted extra nourishment during 1955	...	...	...	9
Number of grants discontinued	...	...	...	5
Number of grants receiving extra nourishment on 31st December, 1955	...	...	...	16

Tuberculosis—Domiciliary Visiting.

One thousand, nine hundred and five visits were paid to the homes of tuberculosis patients in the divisional area during 1955 by the Health Visitors specially detailed for this work.

Infectious Diseases.

Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases Cases notified during 1955:—

Disease	AGE IN YEARS							Age Unknown	Totals
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	—	24	56	—	—	—	—	1	81
Measles	34	356	213	5	2	—	—	2	612
Whooping Cough	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	8
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	7
Food Poisoning	1	3	2	1	2	—	—	—	9

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1955

Nuisance Inspections.

Total number of inspections made for nuisances only	...	...	...	...	...	105
Informal notices served for abatement of nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	55
Informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	55
Statutory notices served for abatement of nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	—
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of summonses or other legal proceedings	—

Sanitary Inspections and Visits.

Total number during the year	516
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(Note:—These exclude inspections for nuisances; housing inspections; visits under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations; Shops Acts; sec. 14 of Food and Drugs Act, 1938; and Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.)

Drainage and Sewerage.

Of the 3,829 dwellinghouses in the district, only 68 are not connected to a public or private sewer. However, of these latter, 33 have water-closet accommodation and drain into septic tanks, cesspools or small disposal plants.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of dwellinghouses having one W.C.	...	...	...	...	3,224
Number of dwellinghouses having more than one W.C.	...	...	...	...	572
Number of water closets constructed for new houses	...	...	...	...	323
Number of additional water closets constructed for old property	...	...	...	...	2
Percentage of closets on the water-carriage system	...	...	...	...	98.9

	Water Closets	Pail Closets	Chemical Closets	Total
Dwellinghouses	4,375	33	2	4,410
Factories	208	-	4	212
Shops	61	-	-	61
Hotels and public houses	45	-	-	45
Business premises	28	-	-	28
Public conveniences	5	-	3	8
Schools	201	-	-	201
Other premises	153	3	-	156
Totals	5,076	36	9	5,121

Water Supply.

The sources of supply are (a) reservoir belonging to Sheffield Corporation, and (b) bore-hole at Austerfield belonging to the Don Valley Water Board.

As from the 1st October, 1955, Maltby Urban District Council became a constituent member of the Don Valley Water Board.

Total number of dwellinghouses in the district	...	...	...	...	...	3,829
Number of dwellinghouses on public supply	...	...	...	...	...	3,820
Number of dwellinghouses not on public supply	...	...	...	...	...	9
Samples taken—bacteriological—satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	7
Samples taken—bacteriological—unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	-
Samples taken—chemical—satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	4
Samples taken—chemical—unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	-
Samples taken—plumbo-solvency—satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	4
Samples taken—plumbo-solvency—unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	-

Given below are details of the Public Analyst's report upon the four samples of water taken for chemical examination:—

Physical Characters.

				Sheffield		Don Valley	
				(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Suspended matter	...	...	...	None	None	None	None
Appearance of column 2 ft. long	...	...	...	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Taste	...	...	...	Normal	Colourless	Normal	Colourless
Odour	...	...	...	None	Normal	None	Normal

Chemical Examination.

			Sheffield	Don Valley
			(a)	(b)
Total solids dried at 180°C	...	...	76.0	90.0 190.0 190.0
Chlorides in terms of Chlorine	...	...	12.0	11.0 19.0 18.0
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	...	...	19.8	18.1 31.3 29.7
Nitrites	...	...	None	None None
Nitrates as Nitrogen	...	...	0.75	0.75 4.50 4.50
Poisonous metals (Lead, etc.)	...	...	None	None None
Total Hardness	...	...	37.0	40.0 165.0 162.0
Temporary Hardness	...	...	15.0	13.0 149.0 127.0
Permanent Hardness	...	...	22.0	27.0 16.0 35.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	...	...	1.05	0.37 0.25 0.21
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	0.006	0.004 0.004 0.004
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	0.096	0.016 0.016 0.016
Free Chlorine	...	...	None	None None
pH Value	...	...	6.9	7.6 6.9 7.8
B.Coli Test (MacConkey's BSL Broth)				
Probable no. of coliform organisms per 100 ml.	...	...	0	0 2 0
Subcultures showed them to be of	...	...		Non-faecal type

Milk Supply.

Samples taken for analysis under Food and Drugs Acts	...	...	...	...	11
Samples found to be adulterated	...	...	...	...	-
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	-

In view of the fact that the greatest part of milk consumed in Maltby is delivered in bottle, the amount of sampling done has been greatly reduced. Of course, the milk is constantly being sampled at the dairy; and this almost obviates the need for more than routine sampling in the district.

Samples of ordinary milk taken for:—

(a) Methylene Blue Test	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
(b) Presence of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number of milk retailers registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Number of dairies registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949/53.

Number of licences in force for:—

(a) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	Dealers	Supplementary
(b) Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	5	7

Samples of Milk obtained:—

(a) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(b) Pasteurised (not including T.T.)	...	...	...	...	3	-
(c) Sterilised (not including T.T.)	4	-

Number of inspections made at premises of licensees	64
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The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of licences in force for:—

								Dealers	Supplementary
								5	6
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
Samples of Milk obtained:—									
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inspections made at premises of licensees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		38

As stated above, the bulk of the milk retailed in Maltby is bottled and heat treated. This is, without doubt, a great advancement. But, I am of the opinion that further progress could, and should, be made in this field. Over 20 years ago, whilst working in London, I saw the introduction of non-returnable cartons for milk distribution. Although the cost of cartoned milk was slightly dearer than bottled milk, the demand was constantly increasing as the advantages became more widely appreciated. Introduction of the carton does away with breakages, mis-use of bottles, cracked and dirty bottles and, in general, ensures more hygienic distribution. Furthermore, it would ease the task of the distributor, since no 'empties' would have to be collected—the cartons being ultimately burned by the householder.

Quite naturally, one cannot visualise a quick change-over, in view of the re-organisation of dairy plants and the ultimate costs involved. Nevertheless, I feel that greater progress should be made in the matter in the interests of hygiene. At the time of compilation of this report, I understand that one firm near Chester have perfected half-pint polythene-coated paper cartons which are heat sealed. Let us hope that progress continues until the milk bottle, and its attendant worries, becomes a thing of the past.

Ice Cream.

Premises registered under section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for:—

(a) Storage and sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
(b) Manufacture of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
(c) Manufacture and sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Inspections made of such premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Samples taken for bacteriological examination—Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
" " " " " " " 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
" " " " " " " 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" " " " " " " 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Iced Lollipops.

Samples taken for bacteriological examination—satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
" " " " " " " " —unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Meat and Food Inspection.

Number of surrenders of unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
" " " " " " " " meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

The following is a schedule of foodstuffs which were surrendered and subsequently destroyed:—

					C. Q. lbs. ozs.
Tinned Meats	...	27 tins	...	1 1 16 2	
" Fruits	...	72 "	...	2 21 9	
" Vegetables	25	"	...	27 1	
" Fish	...	19 "	...	7 2	
" Milk	...	10 "	...	9 6	
Cereals	...	6 packets	...	12 0	
Sausage	...	-		3 11 0	
Cheese	...	-		1 1 20 8	
Tinned Soups	...	48 tins	...	1 2 0	
		207 tins, etc.		5 0 14 12	

Food Premises.

Number of bakehouses in use in district ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Underground bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	(partly)
Inspections made of bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Premises registered under sec. 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for:—								
(a) Preparation or manufacture of sausages, preserved meat, etc. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
(b) Preparation or manufacture of fried fish and chipped potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of industrial canteens ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
,, „ school canteens ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
,, „ cafes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of visits to food preparing premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	389
Number of grocers' shops and visits made ...	...	...	...	12	132			
,, „ grocer/greengrocers' shops and visits made ...	...	22	201					
,, „ greengrocers' shops and visits made ...	...	6	36					
,, „ wet fish shops and visits made ...	...	2	45					
,, „ butchers' shops and visits made ...	...	12	113					
,, „ confectionery shops and visits made ...	...	2	15					
Total number of food shops and visits thereto ...	...	56	542					

Food Hygiene.

Once again the Department has paid particular attention to this field of public health work and, through the medium of personal and informal action, more improvements have been secured.

One feature which deserves comment is the introduction in several shops of refrigerated display cabinets for perishable goods. The advantages of these cabinets are many, and the customer can be assured of purchasing fresh and wholesome products. Let us hope that the action of these progressive and hygiene-conscious traders will become more widespread.

Naturally, like every other sanitarian, I awaited with a sense of eager anticipation the introduction of the new Legislation to replace the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Although becoming operative in 1956, the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, will most certainly widen the scope of our activities and greatly widen our powers. The year 1956, therefore will see greater improvements still and will, I feel, present a much more pleasant picture than its predecessors.

Slaughterhouses.

Number of private slaughterhouses registered (see below) ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspections made of such slaughterhouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	28

The licences issued for the two private slaughterhouses expired on the 31st July, 1955, and no application was made for renewal. It would appear, therefore, that local butchers are satisfied with arrangements at nearby public abattoirs.

Shops Act, 1950—Sections 38 and 71.

Number of visits made under the above Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	209
Unsatisfactory conditions found ...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Unsatisfactory conditions remedied ...	...	...	...	...	...	10

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Factories where Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by L.A. ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inspections made of same ...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Other factories in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A. ...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Inspections made of same ...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Defects—				Found	Remedied	
(a) Want of cleanliness ...	...	...	...	4	4	
(b) Unsuitable or defective W.C.'s ...	...	...	...	3	3	

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number in district—permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number in district—itinerant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Visits of inspection made to the above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98

Again, I am pleased to record a decline in the number of itinerant van dwellers frequenting Maltby. Undoubtedly, the measure of co-operation which exists between the Department and the local police has a marked effect on these persons.

Rodent Control.

Properties inspected (i.e. complaint, survey or otherwise)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	886
Infestations dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Properties involved in the above infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56

Some measure of trouble has been caused by rats and mice on the Cliff Hill Estate; access to houses being gained through plaster ventilators and also small cavities in walls through which pass service pipes. These matters were taken up with the Surveyor and the contractor, and arrangements were made to fix metal ventilators and to seal all cavities in walls as soon as pipes, etc., have been fixed.

West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Number of registered hawkers of food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of registered storage premises for hawkers of food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of visits paid to such premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Number of registered hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number of visits paid to hairdressing establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Only one application was received and granted for the renewal of a licence to keep a pet shop.

Atmospheric Pollution.

The smoke filter apparatus in my office has again been in full use throughout the year—the tabulated monthly readings therefrom being forwarded through the County Medical Officer to the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research.

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwellinghouses in the district	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,829
Number of back-to-back houses included in the above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year.

Number inspected for housing defects (under Housing or P.H. Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	175
Number of inspections made for the purpose (incl. re-inspections)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	394
Number inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number considered to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	119

Remedy of Defects during year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective houses so rendered fit	93
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Proceedings under Secs. 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936	-
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Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	20
Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:—								
(a) by owners (includes 2 from 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b) by L.A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Proceedings under Secs. 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936.

Representations, etc., made in respect of dwellinghouses unfit for human habitation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	-
Dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	-

Number of New Houses provided during the year.

By the Local Authority—permanent type	...	...	...	...	...	58
By Private Enterprise—permanent type	...	...	...	...	...	5
By Coal Industry Housing Association—permanent type	...	...	...	...	...	245

Total number of Council Houses in Maltby 1,522

Applications for Council Houses.

Number of applications on register at end of 1955	...	...	...	...	...	593
Number of applicants who are tenants:—	(a)	Pensioners	...	...	...	49
	(b)	Widows	...	...	...	42
	(c)	Others	...	...	...	246
						<u>337</u>
Number who are sub-tenants:—	(a)	Miners	...	...	...	28
	(b)	Non-Miners	...	...	...	211
	(c)	Pensioners	...	...	...	4
	(d)	Widows	...	...	...	13
						<u>256</u>

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants 7

With one exception these were granted to owner-occupiers — the total expenses approved being £1,095 10s. 0d., 50 per cent. of which was paid by way of grant. The improvements effected in the main were: Conversion of small bedrooms into bathrooms, with bath and wash basin—hot water installation—new fireplaces—sink units—electricity.

Other Housing Matters.

(1) Towards the end of the year the Council purchased 28 houses in the Leslie Avenue area of the township with a view to modernising them. At the time of preparation of this report some houses had already been provided with all modern amenities and brought up to an excellent standard. One house, before being re-let, was on view to the public for a while and all agents and owners of private property were invited to view in the hope that they too would be induced to carry out similar improvements. This project is the first of a number which the Council have in mind providing similar types of property can be purchased at a price which would warrant the expenditure involved. I think the Council, and the Housing Committee in particular, are to be congratulated on the success of this venture.

(2) A further survey of privately owned and N.C.B. property was carried out in order to ascertain which houses were still short of electricity, hot water, bath and modern ranges and a special report on houses where active tuberculosis cases were domiciled, was submitted. Owners and agents of houses lacking any or all of the essential modern amenities were approached and asked to give special consideration on behalf of such cases. At this juncture, tribute ought to be paid to the Housing Committee for the manner in which they have, during the past few years, allocated council houses to tuberculosis cases on whose behalf medical reports and recommendations have warranted such action.

(3) N.C.B. houses continued to come off lease and revert to the owner or be sold. This caused much extra work to the Health Department. When the 1,300 odd houses were under the control of the Colliery Company and subsequently the N.C.B. it was a comparatively easy matter to get choked drains, emergency repairs, etc., done. Now, with so many owners and agents, most of whom reside outside Maltby, the administrative work has greatly increased, as has the time lag between report and repair and the number of statutory notices under Section 53 of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, which deals with stopped-up drains. Under the N.C.B. a regular inspection and flushing service obviated many drains becoming choked.

Public Cleansing.

Once again, it has been possible to maintain a weekly collection from all dwellinghouses and shops—and twice weekly from schools and certain business premises. With the development of the Coal Industry Housing Association Estate on Tickhill Road, and the Council's Cliff Hill Estate, it was found necessary to increase the weekly vehicle and man-hours. The regularity of collection has resulted in almost a complete absence of complaints; what few complaints did arise were after bank holiday periods when temporary lapses in routine occurred.

Although this matter has been referred to in previous reports, I feel that I must once again remark upon the considerable amount of combustible matter found in dustbins to-day. The inclusion of so much matter in household refuse creates difficulties at the refuse tip. Despite the efforts of your tip attendant, a great deal of this material cannot be extracted; and its presence increases the hazard of combustion in the tip. I would, therefore, repeat my previous appeals to householders to burn as much of this type of refuse as possible. By doing so, our present difficulties would be minimised to a great extent and, further, more bin space would then be made available for the reception of ashes, clinkers, tins and the like.

Whilst urging householders to burn combustible rubbish, I would also request them not to use their dustbin for this purpose. The dustbin is for the reception of refuse, and not the incineration of same. Such a practice has a very marked effect upon the life of the bin which, in view of present-day costs, should be used with care. On the subject of cost, it is worth noting that the standard bin in use by the Council was costing 46s. 7d. at the end of the year, as against 8s. 6d. in pre-war years. Surely, this fact emphasises the need for greater care on the part of householders.

Despite the increased costs, I am pleased to report that owners and agents of local properties co-operate satisfactorily in the replacement of dustbins; and, in only one instance, was it necessary to serve statutory notice.

Whilst maintaining a weekly collection, it has been possible to keep the question of economy closely allied to efficiency. Reference to the Public Cleansing Costs for 1954/1955 showed that Maltby's figures compared very favourably with others. Whilst a close examination of the figures reveals that value for money is given generally by cleansing departments, one must bear in mind that Maltby is a coal-mining area and also that we give a weekly service—which many authorities cannot lay claim to. I give below a comparison of average annual net cost per 1,000 premises for areas with a population range of under 30,000.

	Collection	Disposal	Collection and Disposal	Average net cost per house per year	Average net cost per house per week
Under 30,000	£1,475	£204	£1,679	£1 13s. 6d.	7. 7d.
Maltby	...	£1,430	£165	£1 12s. 0d.	7. 4d.

Although tipping was completed at Coronation Park during 1954, I feel that reference should be made here to the progress made by the Parks Department by the end of the year. Covered as it is now with a mantle of green, I am satisfied that, in view of the further improvements planned, the question of tipping on this site has been greatly justified.

School Health Service.

Medical Inspections.

Number of pupils who were medically examined during 1955:—

School entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	293
7 to 8-year-old pupils	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192
Last year primary pupils	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	177
First year secondary pupils	58
Last year secondary pupils	322

Total	1,042
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Number of children examined at special, re-examination and other periodic sessions	482
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Infestation with Vermin.

Total number of examinations in the schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	7,295
Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	175

Diseases of the Skin.

Number of children treated at the Maltby Clinic during the year:—

Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Minor Ailment Clinic.

Number of children treated at the Minor Ailment Clinic	222
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Sunlight Clinic.

Number of children who attended the Maltby Sunlight Clinic	37
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Specialist Clinics.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Three hundred and forty-three children had their eyes examined by Dr. F. Fischer during 1955 at the Ophthalmic Clinics held at the Child Welfare Centre, Maltby.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Twenty-two children were examined for ear, nose and throat defects at the Rotherham Hospital, Doncaster Gate. Seventeen children received operative treatment. Nine sessions were held during the year.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Nineteen children attended the Orthopaedic Clinic held at the Child Welfare Centre, Rawmarsh. Two children obtained surgical appliances. Ten sessions were held during the year.

Pædiatric Clinic.

Thirty-three children attended the Pædiatric Clinic held at the Maltby Clinic. Nine sessions were held during the year.

Speech Therapy.

No speech therapy was given during the year.

Child Guidance Clinic.

One child attended the Child Guidance Clinic at Rawmarsh.

Children's Convalescent Home, Filey.

Four children from the Maltby district were sent to the Rotherham and District Children's Convalescent Home at Filey during the year.

Immunisations and Vaccinations.

								Protective	Refresher
Number of children immunised against diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158	46
Number of children immunised against whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	-
Number of children vaccinated against smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69	-

B.C.G. Vaccination.

								Number of 13-year-old children vaccinated
Maltby Grammar School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
Maltby Hall Modern School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80

Maternity and Midwifery Service.

Domiciliary Births.

The Domiciliary Midwives attended 150 confinements in the Maltby area.

Analgesics in Childbirth.

One hundred and fifty women, confined at home, received analgesics—52 cases received Gas and Air and 107 received Pethidine. Some cases received both Gas and Air and Pethidine.

Medical Aids.

The General Practitioners were requested by midwives on 24 occasions for medical aid at, or in connection with, confinements, as follows:—

Pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Lying-in	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
The Child	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Dental Treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

Sixty-two expectant and nursing mothers were provided with dental treatment under the County Scheme during 1955. Thirty-one were referred by the Child Welfare Centre and 31 by the family doctors. Forty-seven were treated by private dentists and 15 by the County Dentist.

The County Dental Clinic was opened on 5th September, 1955, but work in the first few months was mainly confined to school children.

Ante-natal Clinic.

One hundred and twenty expectant mothers made 888 attendances at the Maltby Ante-natal Clinic, Walters Road, during the year.

Child Welfare.

Care of Premature Babies.

Three Sorrento cots were maintained at the Maltby Ambulance Depot for issue at the request of a doctor or midwife. These are now being re-equipped with Dunlopillo mattresses, pillows and better quality clothing.

Health Visiting.

The Maltby Health Visitors made the following visits to children under five years of age:—

Number of first visits paid to children under one year of age	...	...	...	259
Number of re-visits paid to children under one year of age	...	...	...	354
Total visits paid to children over one year of age	...	...	...	1,271
Total visits	...	...	...	1,884

Infant Welfare Clinic.

Three hundred and ninety-nine children made 3,217 attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinic during 1955. One hundred and seventy-seven children under one year of age made 2,582 of these attendances.

Home Nursing.

During 1955 the Home Nurses employed in the Divisional area attended 2,983 cases and made 65,748 visits.

Analysis of cases and visits:—								Cases	Visits
Medical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,263	54,130
Surgical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	653	10,353
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	97
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	933
Maternal Complications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	235
Totals								2,983	65,748

Patients included in above who were 65 and over on first visit during year	...	...	...	...	...	...	801	33,442
Children under 5 included in above	...	...	...	...	...	...	286	2,319
Patients who have had more than 24 visits during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	208	14,843

Ambulance Service.

During 1955 the ambulances based in Maltby conveyed the following cases:—

Admissions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,598
Discharges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	995
Transfers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Out-Patients	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,296
Accident Patients	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	619
Total number of Patients								...	...	15,566

Home Help Service.

Number of Domestic Helps employed in the Division at 31.12.55 61
New cases provided with domestic help in Maltby during 1955:—

		No. of Cases
Maternity (including expectant mothers)	...	7
Tuberculosis	...	1
Chronic sick: Aged 65 and over	...	9
Under 65 years	...	1
Others	...	4
Total new cases		22

In addition 45 cases of all types were carried over from the previous year.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and Her Child.

Thirteen Maltby cases were dealt with under this section. Seven cases were referred by Divisional Staff, 4 by Moral Welfare Organisations and 2 by Local Hospitals.

The disposal of the cases was as follows:—

Marriage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Baby adopted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mother keeping baby	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

One case was referred elsewhere and 2 cases were not finally settled at the end of the year.

Group Training Classes.

The following attendances were made at the Group Training Class held at the Maltby Child Welfare Centre during 1955:—

Under 16 years		Over 16 years	
Males	Females	Males	Females
91	130	108	223

CLINICS HELD AT THE NURSERY HUT, WALTERS ROAD, MALTBY:—

Clinic	Day and Time	Doctor Attending
Infant Welfare Clinic	Mondays 2 to 4-30 p.m.	M. J. Hallinan
Ante-natal Clinic	Wednesdays 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.	M. J. Hallinan
School Clinic	Tuesdays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 12 noon	Dr. Gorrie attends first Monday of each month from 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
Group Training Class	Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons	Miss P. M. Richards

MIDWIVES—Maltby Area.

NAME AND ADDRESS	Telephone Number
MOZLEY, Mrs. E. 4 Rosston Road, Maltby	Maltby 78
WILLIAMS, Mrs. S. J. C. 14 Beech Road, Maltby	Maltby 115

HOME NURSES—Maltby Area.

BRYDONE, Mrs. H. 245 Rotherham Road, Maltby	Maltby 105
HUNT, Mrs. J. 30 Norwood Avenue, Maltby	Maltby 178

HEALTH VISITORS—Maltby Area.

ELLIS, Mrs. E. 32 Addison Road, Maltby	Maltby 201
O'DONNELL, Miss B. A. 77 Far Lane, East Dene, Rotherham. (Part-time Assistant Health Visitor and School Nurse)	
TAYLOR, Mrs. D. 83 Norwood Avenue, Maltby.	

